

**REQUEST
for
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
TRANSMITTAL**

*Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000,
provided for continued examination of a utility or plant application
filed on or after June 8, 1995.*

See the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

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|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Application Number | 10/743,790 |
| Filing Date | December 24, 2003 |
| First Named Inventor | Masanao YAMAGISHI et al. |
| Group Art Unit | 3728 |
| Examiner Name | John Pickett |
| Attorney Docket Number | 2003_1869A |
| Confirmation No. | 9812 |

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See *Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice*, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114
 - a. ☒ Previously submitted:
 - i. ☒ Please enter and consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on September 28, 2005
 - ii. ☐ Please consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
 - iii. ☐ Other _____
 - b. ☒ Enclosed:
 - i. ☐ Amendment/Reply
 - ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
 - iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
 - iv. ☒ Other Patent Office Fee Transmittal Form
2. Miscellaneous
 - a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months.
(period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required).
 - b. ☐ Other _____
3. Fees (The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.)
 - a. ☐ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. _____
 - i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)
 - ii. ☒ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. § 1.136 and § 1.17)
 - iii. ☐ Other _____
 - b. ☒ Check in the amount of \$ 455.00 enclosed

4. CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS

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October 27, 2005

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